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(S4) Title: A NOVEL HAEMOPOIETIN RECEPTOR AND GENETIC SEQUENCES ENCODING SAME

(S7) Abstract

The present invention is directed to a novel haemopoietin receptor or a derivative thereof and to genetic sequences encoding same. The receptor molecule and its derivatives and the genetic sequences encoding same of the present invention are useful in the development f a wide range of agonists, antagonists, therapeutics and diagnostic reagents based on ligand interaction with its receptor. The present invention particularly relates to a receptor for leptin.

CLAIMS:

An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a sequence of nucleotides encoding or complementary to a sequence encoding a haemopoietin receptor or a derivative thereof wherein said sequence of nucleotides or a complementary form thereof is capable of hybridising under medium stringent conditions to the oligonucleotide:

5'-(A/G)CTCCA(A/G)TC(A/G)CTCCA-3' [SEQ ID NO:1].

- 2. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence or a complementary form thereof which hybridises under medium stringent conditions to the oligonucleotides:
 - 5'-ACTAGCAGGGATGTAGCTGAG-3' [SEQ ID NO:4]
 - 5'-CTGCTCCTATGATACCT-3' [SEQ ID NO:6]
 - 5'-CCTCTTCCATCTTATTGCTTGG-3' [SEQ ID NO:7]
 - 5'-ATCGGTCGTGACATACAAGG-3' [SEQ ID NO:8].
- 3. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 2 wherein said nucleic acid molecule comprises a nucleotide sequence or a complementary form thereof which hybridises under medium stringent conditions to one or more of the following oligonucleotides:
 - 5'-CTCAGCTACATCCCTGCTAGT-3' [SEQ ID NO:5]
 - 5'-AGCTAAGCTTTCTAGATATCCAATTACTCCTTGGAGA-3' [SEQ ID NO:9]
 - 5'-AGCTTCTAGATCAATCACTCTGGTGTTTTTCAAT-3' [SEQ ID NO:10]
 - 5'-AGCTTCTAGATCAAACTTTTATATCCATGACAAC-3' [SEQ ID NO:11].
- 4. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 3 wherein the haemopoietin receptor is capable of interaction with leptin.
- 5. An isolated nucleic acid molecule according to claim 4 comprising a nucleotide sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:12 or is capable of hybridising to all or part thereof under low stringent conditions.

- 6. A recombinant haemopoietin receptor or a derivative thereof encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which comprises a nucleotide sequence or a complementary form thereof which is capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:1 under medium stringent conditions.
- 7. A recombinant haemopoietin receptor or its derivative according to claim 6 wherein said haemopoietin receptor is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which comprises a nucleotide sequence or a complementary form thereof which is capable of hybridising to SEQ ID NO:4, SEQ ID NO:6, SEQ ID NO:7 and SEQ ID NO:8 under medium stringent conditions.
- 8. A recombinant haemopoietin receptor or its derivative according to claim 7 wherein said haempoietic receptor is encoded by a nucleic acid molecule which comprises a nucleotide sequence or complementary form thereof which hybridises under medium stringency conditions to one or more of SEQ ID NO:1 and SEQ ID NO:4 to SEQ ID NO:11.
- 9. A recombinant haempoietin receptor or its derivative according to claim 8 wherein the haemopoietin receptor is capable of interaction with leptin.
- 10. A recombinant haemopoietin receptor or its derivative according to claim 9 encoded by a nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence or complementary form thereof substantially as set forth in SEQ ID NO:12 or a sequence capable of hybridising to all or part thereof under medium stringent conditions.
- 11. A recombinant haemopoietin receptor or its derivative according to claim 10 wherein said haempoietin receptor has an amino acid sequence substantially as set forth in Figure 2 [SEQ ID NO:13] or having at least about 60% similarity to all or part thereof.
- 12. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 1 or claim 6 wherein said haemopoietin receptor is of mammalian origin.

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- 13. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 12 wherein the haempoietin receptor is derived from a human, livestock animal, laboratory test animal, companion animal or captive wild animal.
- 14. A nucleic acid molecule according to claim 13 wherein the haempoietin receptor is derived from a human or murine species.
- 15. An antibody to the recombinant haempoietin receptor according to any one of claims 6 to 11.
- 16. An antibody according to claim 15 wherein the antibody is a monoclonal antibody.
- 17. A ligand capable of binding to a haempoietic receptor according to any one of claims 6 to 11.
- 18. A ligand according to claim 17 wherein the ligand is leptin.
- 19. A method of identifying a ligand capable of interacting with a haempoietic receptor as defined in any one of claims 6 to 11, said method comprising contacting a biological sample containing a putative ligand with said haempoietic receptor or a ligand binding portion thereof immobilised to a solid support for a time and under conditions sufficient for a complex to form between said receptor and said ligand if said ligand is present in said biological sample, eluting bound ligand and isolating same.
- 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a recombinant haemopoietin receptor according to any one of claims 6 to 11 or a ligand binding portion thereof and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.

- 21. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a ligand to the recombinant haemopoietin receptor according to any one of claims 6 to 11 and one or more pharmaceutically acceptable carriers and/or diluents.
- A method of treatment in a mammal comprising administering to said mammal a treatment effective amount of a recombinant haemopoietin receptor according to any one of claims 6 to 11 or a ligand binding portion thereof or a ligand to said haempoietic receptor for a time and under conditions sufficient for said treatment to be substantially effected or substantially ameliorated.